

MAR 12 2008

Application No. 10/538,531

Filed: November 30, 2005

TC Art Unit: 1645

Confirmation No.: 4249

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A preparation comprising an isolated membrane fraction of Rhodospirillum spp. and/or Phaeospirillum spp. for use as a medicament.
2. (CANCELED)
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pharmaceutical preparation comprising a preparation of Rhodospirillum spp. and/or Phaeospirillum spp. according to claim 1 and one or more excipients.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A plasma cholesterol-lowering agent comprising a preparation of Rhodospirillum spp. and/or Phaeospirillum spp. according to claim 1.
5. (WITHDRAWN-CURRENTLY AMENDED) Use of a preparation of Rhodospirillum spp. and/or Phaeospirillum spp. according to claim 1 for the production of a medicament for lowering plasma cholesterol.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A food supplement with cholesterol-lowering properties, comprising a preparation of Rhodospirillum spp. and/or Phaeospirillum spp. according to claim 1.
7. (CANCELED)
8. (CANCELED)

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9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Foodstuff comprising a food supplement according to claim 6.

10. (WITHDRAWN-CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for the production of a preparation of *Rhodospirillum* spp. and/or *Phaeospirillum* spp., comprising culturing one or more cells of *Rhodospirillum* spp. and/or *Phaeospirillum* spp. to a multi-cellular culture, harvesting said culture, and processing the cells of said culture into a an isolated membrane preparation.

11. (CANCELED)

12. (WITHDRAWN-CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for the production of a food supplement according to claim 6, comprising making suitable for consumption a an isolated membrane preparation of *Rhodospirillum* spp. and/or *Phaeospirillum* spp. for use as a ~~medicament with or without live *Rhodospirillum* spp. and/or *Phaeospirillum* spp. or the membrane fraction of said bacteria.~~

13. (WITHDRAWN) A method for the production of a foodstuff, comprising incorporating a food supplement according to claim 6 into a foodstuff.

14. (CANCELED)

15. (CANCELED)

16. (CANCELED)